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announced December 4 by James B. Coulter, secretary of Natural Resources.

Dr. Coulter said that contracts totalling \$799,370 were awarded to two joint ventures representing four engineering firms.

A \$507,110 George's Creek - Jennings Run - Braddock Creek study will be conducted by Green Associates, Inc., Baltimore, and Gannett, Fleming, Corrdry and Carpenter, Inc., Harrisburg, Pa. A \$292,260 Casselman River - Youghiogheny River - Cherry Creek study was assigned to Baker - Wibberly & Associates, Inc., Hagerstown, and Shelly and Loy, Harrisburg.

The Department of Natural Resources said the studies are expected to show what has to be done to prevent pollutants such as sulfuric acid from entering streams from abandoned mines.

General Policy

PUBLIC BUILDING SERVICES ISSUES RULES ON NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT

Procedures to be used to carry out the National Environmental Policy Act were issued by the General Services Administration's Public Buildings Services December 8.

The procedures explained what PBS employees must do in filing environmental statements in the design, construction, alteration, operation, use, and exchange of public buildings and sites, and the lease or purchase of commercial facilities to house federal activities.

The PBS regional director, the assistant commissioner for operating programs, and the assistant commissioner for operational planning are initially responsible for determining whether an action is "major" and will "significantly affect the quality of the human environment." They also are responsible for preparing and submitting environmental statements on actions within their jurisdiction. The statements are subject to review by the commissioner of PBS.

Responsible officials must submit draft environmental statements to the appropriate EPA regional office for review and comment. A final statement must be prepared by the PBS regional director before the proposed action can be initiated. The PBS commissioner will review the final statement and submit it to the Office of General Counsel and to the Office of Environmental Affairs.

After their approval, the statement will be submitted to the deputy administrator, who will transmit it to the Council on Environmental Quality.

Time Requirements

The procedures provide that "to the maximum extent possible, no action is to be taken sooner than 90 calendar days after a draft environmental statement has been circulated for comment and furnished to CEQ. Action also cannot be taken in less than 30 calendar days after the final text of the statement is made available to CEQ and the public.

If the final statement is filed at least 60 days after a draft statement is made available to CEQ and the public, the

30-day and 90-day periods may run concurrently to the extent that they overlap. Any deviation from the time requirements must be approved by the Office of Environmental Affairs.

The PBS Central Office is responsible for preparing and submitting reports for all proposed legislation and regulations that will have an impact on the environment.

The procedures were published in the December 8 Federal Register, p. 23336.

Research

OKLAHOMA UNIVERSITY AWARDED \$33,792 EPA GRANT FOR MICROWAVE RADIATION STUDY

A \$33,792 grant was awarded the University of Oklahoma Research Institute, Norman, by the Environmental Protection Agency.

The grant will assist a study of the athermal influence of nonionizing electric and magnetic fields, and of microwave radiation, on several genetic phenomena in flies.

EPA also awarded a \$33,355 grant to the University of Illinois, Urbana, for research to evaluate the potential for reclamation of energy from organic refuse by methane fermentation.

Connecticut

ENVIRONMENTAL DEPARTMENT PLANS ISSUANCE OF INSECTICIDE REGULATIONS

The Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection will promulgate regulations by December 31 on the use of insecticides for controlling defoliating insects.

The regulations should go into effect by January 31, 1972, a department spokesman told Environment Reporter.

The regulations will be based on testimony presented at a December 7 hearing on the department's policies regarding use of insecticides. The policies were supported by conservation groups, private citizens, scientists, and chemistry, botany, biology, and forestry professors, the spokesman stated. Opposition came from the Agriculture Department, Union Carbide Corporation, and tree experts who stated that broad spectrum pesticides are the most effective means of controlling defoliating insects.

Dan W. Lufkin, commissioner, said December 4 that the application of broad spectrum insecticides from the air for nonagricultural purposes should be banned. He said such a procedure is not justified since broad spectrum pesticides may have serious effects on natural controls and force more reliance on sprays. He said damaging effects of insect depredations in forest ecosystems are not well understood, and the effectiveness of aerial application of broad spectrum sprays in controlling gypsy moths is inconclusive.

Mr. Lufkin said that for all aerial spraying for agricultural purposes, the state department should issue permits, that the department endorses integrated control of defoliating insects from the ground in areas of "intense human use," and that the department will not reimburse municipalities